



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY SUCCESSOR AGENCY,
FINANCING AUTHORITY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555**

**December 18, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council/Redevelopment Agency. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Council Present: Mayor Dan Clark; Vice Mayor 'Chip' Holloway; Council Members Jim Sander; Lori Acton; and Steven Morgan

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Dennis Speer; Deputy City Clerk Karen Harker; City Attorney Keith Lemieux; and other staff

ROLL CALL

- Chip Holloway and Jim Sanders were 15 minutes late to closed session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved order of presentations as follows:

1. Certificates of achievement to IWV Seniors Football
2. Presentation of Service Awards to Employees
3. Presentation of the Fremont Valley Preservation Project
4. Presentation of the Pavement Management Study

Item Pulled

- Closed session item Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation – Public Disclosure of Litigant Would Prejudice the City of Ridgecrest pulled by City Attorney

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 3 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent (Holloway And Sanders)

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- None presented

Council Members Holloway and Sanders arrived.

CLOSED SESSION

- GC54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Liability Claim of John M. Sperdelozzi, Claim No. 13-12
- GC54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City of Ridgecrest v. William Dale Howard
- GC54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – William Dale Howard v. City of Ridgecrest
- GC54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – City of Ridgecrest v. Matasantos
- GC54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Jim Hellebrandt, dba Hi-Desert Construction v. City of Ridgecrest
- GC54956.9(d)(2) Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation – Public Disclosure of Litigant Would Prejudice the City of Ridgecrest

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Claim No. 13-12, John M. Sperdelozzi
 - Instructed staff to pay the claim
 - City of Ridgecrest v. William Dale Howard
 -
 - William Dale Howard v City of Ridgecrest
 - Federal court has dismissed the case
 - City of Ridgecrest v. Matasantos
 - Council instructed attorney to continue with lawsuit.
 - Jim Hellebrandt, dba Hi-Desert Construction v. City of Ridgecrest
 - Council retained city attorney to represent and defend the matter

City Attorney Report *(continued)*

- Undisclosed potential litigation
 - Pulled from discussion by City Attorney prior to approval of the agenda
- Other
 - None

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 6:12 p.m.

Mike Neel

- Spoke on historic decision from court regarding Strange v. Federal Government
- Read excerpts from judge's statement regarding government's storage of phone data from citizens and privacy issues.
- Spoke on reports released by Bill Binney on spying programs for law enforcement and views of corruption of the justice system.
- Spoke on Supreme Court justice statements from the 1800's.
- Recommended to council to not include just business language but include protecting the rights and liberties of citizens during strategic plan discussions.

Dave Matthews

- Wished council and citizens Merry Christmas.
- Spoke on New Year getting worse before getting better both at City and County levels.
- Cautioned council that more lawsuits may be coming in the New Year.

Closed public comment at 6:19 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Presentations Of A Proclamation And Certificates Of Appreciation To IWV Seniors Football Team Honoring Their Championship Achievement**
Holloway

Chip Holloway

- Council presented a proclamation and individual certificates of appreciation to the members of the IWV Seniors football team

2. **Council Presentation Of Service Awards To Staff Members Who Have Attained Employment Milestones**
Clark

Dan Clark

- Presented service awards to employees who have reach 5 or more years of service to the City.

3. Kern County Presentation Of The Fremont Valley Preservation Project

Lorelei Oviatt

Lorelei Oviatt

- Presented PowerPoint presentation to council about the Fremont Valley Preservation Project.

Steve Morgan

- Spoke on council educating them however the EIR was so large that Council Member Holloway and Council Member Morgan received a two hour presentation from various experts.
- Reviewed questions and comments with experts
- Learned there were more agencies involved in this project than Kern County, including LAHONTON, state department of fish and game and others.
- Learned about milestones which have not been met and must be met
- Not as concerned tonight as yesterday.
- Has more knowledge now of the project and the mitigation of water for the residences.
- Looks forward to the open forum in Ridgecrest and requested Dr. Kananie to bring a lot of documentation for the citizens attending.
- One point is 100% clear, was honored these experts were willing to sit down with council because they did not have to.
- What Ridgecrest concerns are does not matter, only the board of supervisors have authority
- Thanked Supervisor Gleason for attending tonight's meeting
- Water not banked shall not leave the boundaries of Kern county
- The board formed must have hydrologists on staff to monitor.
- Not going to placate everyone but county is going further than any other agency who has gathered this information
- Asked Lorelei if this was gathered from other agencies.
 - Lorelei commented on past experience and the process and MOU which was developed by Kern County.
 - The MOU is a contractual agreement which has been vetted by lawyers and the applicant does not have to sign if they want but the project does not move forward.
- Spoke on confusion in the amounts of water and the 7 million AF is based on study done. Asked how confident the staff at Kern County is on the amount of water believed to be in that area.
 - Lorelei – spoke on board of supervisors choosing their experts and receiving all the documents for review. County believes the information received by the hydro geologist is credible.
 - Spoke on certification of the EIR and other choices available
- Entire project is contingent on Aquahelio being able to find entities to buy the power and kern county entities to buy the water.

Lori Acton

- Thanked Lorelei for her work on this project and visiting Ridgecrest and providing information.
- Requested pertinent mitigation measures that have not been discussed.
 - Lorelei – end of the staff report breaks down the mitigation program.
 - Reviewed the mitigation measures for dust, committee, water banking extraction project.
 - Reviewed the restriction of 144,000 AF per year limitation.
 - Requirements to make sure the levels are not brought up too high and maintain balance to prevent flooding.
 - Requirements for permits and testing
 - Requirement for grading and building permits
 - Requirements for vector control
 - Requirements for birds and mosquitos
 - Looking to make sure each mitigation requirement covers every agency or argument that might occur in the future and language clarifies intent.
 - Require all point of sale be in unincorporated Kern County for sales tax purposes.
 - Require 25% local hire employment
- Is this the largest solar project proposed for the county?
 - Lorelei responded
- In scheme of things, specific plan for water produced by the project, discussed transmitting and does this encounter BLM and are they part of the conversation.
 - Lorelei – conveyance system is currently not defined and while mentioned clearly in the EIR, there will be requirements for subsequent EIR for conveyance.

Jim Sanders

- Thanked Lorelei for attending even though she did not have to be here. Presentation very informative.
- Requested clarification of relationship with water usage and solar project, especially water banking.
 - Only relation is on the same piece of property, but two separate projects.
- Kern County is great place to develop power generation.
- Main concern is the water.
- Asked what the risk of subsidence is and what can be done if it occurs.
 - Lorelei – will monitor and technical advisory committee will monitor to make sure subsidence is not occurring outside the owner's property.
 - Certain parameters will have to be established in the event natural disaster occurs.
 - Water banking is similar to money banking. Reviewed practice of trading and buying water based on storage capacity.

Jim Sanders *(continued)*

- Referenced MOU and water dedicated for use by county supervisors.
 - Lorelei – reviewed 10% of water extracted would be under the control of the board. Exemplified Keene who has trouble getting water.
 - Not tied together with the project, separate MOU
 - County extracted truly mitigated items and put into the county MOU.
- Thanked County for holding workshops in January

Chip Holloway

- Referenced meeting with Steve and experts and was pleasantly surprised.
- Overriding theme of putting together a public/private partnership in which every entity touched by the project has the opportunity to benefit from the project.
- Feedback and information received so far has come from opponents of the project, clear that most of the opponents are confused.
- If what you say is true and we can verify it then feel more comfortable with the project
- Referenced acre foot of water and asked public to understand the amount of money invested to date is 18 billion for first 10K feet.
- Basis of this project is the first 600 ft.
- Referenced drilling logs which show water present further down.
- Referenced rumors of earthquake shifting Underground River but real reason for no longer growing alfalfa is due to costs.
- If EIR is approved, does not give the go ahead. What happens if EIR is approved and the other MOU's do not go forward?
 - Gave several scenarios of the process.
 - In order to convey water, have to go to another public agency and do another EIR which Kern County will require same mitigations in a second EIR.
 - Scenarios bring everything back to board of supervisors protecting the rights of kern county property owner's water rights.
- Commented on transport of water from East Kern County to West Kern County creates the same animosity as if giving it to LADWP.
- Spoke on costs of buying water
- Profit motive at some portion of the project, what if Inyokern and Ridgecrest basin goes dry in 20 years. Ridgecrest could not finance enough to get the water. Who's going to pay for the conveyance?
- If numbers can be verified then could be a positive project for the region.
- Study and numbers are verified independently and available as public record.
- Knowing LAHONTAN water district has to approve the project is good
- As community need to base information on verifiable facts. If everything heard is true then a positive benefit for the community.

Dan Clark

- City of Ridgecrest is overdraft at 20 million per year, who made the decision that 114,000 AF is a viable number? Water flows downhill and if so, then how does Ridgecrest not be affected?
 - Numbers came from the applicant and county will be evaluating
 - EIR has determined there is no connectivity between the Ridgecrest basin and Fremont basin
 - Ridgecrest is upstream so water is pumped by Ridgecrest first
 - Water becomes the future in kern county, will not get water back from northern or southern California so need to think strategically over next 10+ years in kern county.
 - Asked council to think regionally and in the terms of Kern County.
 - Discussion of a water treatment facility which could treat and reuse processed water.
 - Reassured council and citizens that if board of supervisors turns project down then fine.
- Asked who would be first, second, third in line for the water and what is the market rate?
 - Unknown at this time. Market issue which has not been determined, however existing users have first priority and cannot be harmed.
- Asked if the water in east Kern County could only be transported within east Kern County.
 - Water ordinance states is for the benefit of Kern County, does not define east or west.
 - To convey water outside Kern County must have a conditional use permit and EIR. Due process for people to go through.

Chip Holloway

- Read a list of use priorities and asked Lorelei to confirm the order.
 - Part of the applicants design and county will hold them to it.

Dan Clark

- Asked if Ridgecrest would be a part of the joint powers authority
 - Applicant request and not a requirement of the board of supervisor's consideration at this time.
- Listed project partners listed on PowerPoint from applicant
 - Lancaster is power only, applicants list and not a list of the board of supervisors
- Commented that Ridgecrest wants to be a part of the decision making and joint powers authority to protect our future.
- Commented on earthquake possibilities and questioned if this affects the closed basin concept

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Dan Clark *(continued)*

- Lorelei – uncertainty part of an EIR, exemplified Keene lack of water due to earthquakes. Cannot make promises but conclusion is to monitor annually but cannot be mitigated.
- Ridgecrest downwind from the project and air pollution concerns
 - Mitigation measures for large scale solar cannot grade large portions and have to use coverage's
 - Applicant must fund sand fences for protection
 - Multiple measure for solar have been included in the requirements.
 - Willow springs area has not experience issues for water banking and planting of clover helps reduce evaporation
 - This project would have strict restrictions.

Keith Lemieux

- Mentioned Rosemond and Edwards of being potential water partners, hypothetically if Rosemond bought water and crossed county line, is it considered export?
 - Rosamond basin does not cross the county line. Secondly still remains contractually native water and could not be moved outside Kern County.
- Is there a native safe yield developed for this project
 - 17,000 AF is considered safe yield.
- Is it correct this is considered mining of the water?
 - Correct, is taking it out the ground
- As soon as this happens then rights convert from appropriate to descriptive and have to file a suit to prevent this from happening
 - This is legal matter, adjudication left to attorney

Lori Acton

- 114k AF per year for total of 1 million AF over 20 year life of project, worst case scenario, is this locked in and will never go beyond 1 million AF
 - Lorelei – this EIR has set the 1 million however future project possibility is a water treatment facility that would alter the levels later.
- Sand fences don't work very well, who will be responsible for maintaining after 30 years.
 - Sand situation will decrease because sand migration will be taken out by the project.

Chip Holloway

- Water banked in will be tested for higher quality
 - Correct
- Water component is part of the project or project does not go forward
 - Applicants decision
- Statement of applicant having right to take as much as possible.
 - Legal matter, they have the right to take as much as the law allows.
 - Board of supervisors cannot dictate authority over legal issues.

Recess for 10 minutes

Public Comment Opened at 8:16 p.m.

Phil Salvatore

- Board of supervisors select the experts
- Referenced surveys which claim between 2.5 AF capacity and 4.8 AF capacity
- Proposed capacity is equivalent to pyramid reservoir
- Commented on information back to 1918 to present and wells going 200 ft. below ground level.
- Question unanswered, after pumping, statement of 10% loss and challenged that no water agency would walk away from 10% of the water
- John Muzak principle recited and loss of license to practice law
- John Muzak has been trying to get water from other districts and is involved in Aquahelio
- Spoke on investor from Beijing who brought in other investors
- Kern county reasons for doing the EIR is not to give more stringent mitigation measures but to attract investors to the project and increasing the tax basis
- Looking for adequate explanation of what will happen at the end of the project and who will fill the aquifer back up.
- Previous subsidence was from pumping for farming and agriculture.

Donna Thomas

- DIR public review and comment process was limited
- Attended the planning meeting where the subsidence report was submitted and not included in the original comment period
- Spoke on letters and studies which were not included in appendices
- East kern county comment letter was omitted from volume one and response letters were omitted from volume three
- Response letter dealt with subsidence and was referenced in other responses for 138 times yet responses were not included.
- Macintosh and associates submitted addendum which was not included
- Requested documents be recirculated for public review for public to see added documents
- Other comment letters stated the documents should be recirculated and the DIR was inaccurate
- Spoke on LAHONTAN letter stating current waste discharge is active and should be rescinded and requires soil analysis.
- Requested staff report given tonight.

Sophia Merck

- Watched EIR development and submitted letter regarding scoping and was surprised that none of her thoughts were addressed
- Has continued writing letters and most recent letter is in regards to 23 responses from Kern County with promises to forward to the board of supervisors
- Letters from Kern County and other responses were not at the referenced location
- Great concern that our concerns were not met
- The PR for the money making attempt, people in Cantil and Fremont valley are being ignored
- Advocates for the project have visited council but have not met with the residents of Cantil
- Money to be made by extraction but not talking to the people whose wells will be deeply affected
- Randsburg and Johannesburg receive water from Fremont valley
- When neighbor's house drops below the sand it affects the property values and dust issues impacts highways and residents

Trisandra Creed

- Fourth generation Cantil resident
- Thanked council for listening because residents have had no representation in the bullish process
- Named families who have lived in the area for 100's of years and community members are being lost
- This is a water grab piggy backing on a solar project
- What if this was happening to you, what if someone wanted to bank your aquifer
- No one is asking or talking to any of the residents
- Attended a meeting in Rosamond
- Pleading council and county to not allow this to happen
- Cannot afford to lose any more of the aquifer
- Water is good
- Citizens have heart failure and respiratory issues due to the dust and county does nothing
- Lack of indigenous plants and animals is due to the sand
- Does not trust the county's plan because of years of being mistreated
- Dust is coming from abandoned fields and does not make sense to build a solar field on top of it
- Pleading Ridgecrest to really look at the project and see what they are really doing.

Public Comment Closed At 8:39 p.m.

4. Presentation Of The Pavement Management Study

Speer

Dennis Speer

- Reviewed the Pavement Management Study and various treatment alternatives available.

Steve Morgan

- Because of opportunity we are going to have in reviewing street paving recommendations and the funds from TAB and Measure 'L', asked council to consider reconstituting the infrastructure committee
- May have to meet weekly to reach deadlines with available funds
- To some people this is like watching paint dry but to me is the Mona Lisa
- Emphasis needs to be stated that we have always known this was a fluid process with developing the list of streets to be paved or maintained
- Depending on what contractors tell us this list may change.
- There are economies of scale where we may be able to bundle a street project in a general area and realize cost savings.
- Look forward to having a collaborative group to get the projects going.

Lori Acton

- With TAB funds can we find alternative ways to stretch the funds?
 - Can look at alternative paving methods which may produce up to 4 times the number of streets.
- Volunteer to work on the infrastructure committee

Jim Sanders

- Costs listed in the funding schedule, do they reflect using alternative methods or based on standard construction
 - Modified costs are based on using alternative treatments where Willdan did not account for these methods
- Asked the cost of the previous study
 - \$30,000
- Does this study need to be repeated or is an update satisfactory
 - Good for up to 5 years.
- Asked why street repairs were so expensive
 - Labor costs and the price of oil controls other petroleum products
- Asked for clarification of prevailing wage and how it affects costs on street projects
 - As a general law city, required to use prevailing wage on projects.
 - Additionally every project requires engineering study
- Asked amount of TAB funding allocated for streets.
 - Currently being reviewed by staff and will come back with history of identified projects.

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Jim Sanders *(continued)*

- Spoke on future projections graph in the presentation. Interested in spending money now to bring streets up to a good PCI and save money in the future on maintenance.
 - Will bring recommendation forward.

Chip Holloway

- Commented on cost per mile and possible imbedded costs.
- Interested in doing projects in bulk and possibility of bringing in extra temporary staff to do the projects
- Need to allocate the funds and begin projects as quickly as possible.
- Spoke on city of Los Angeles budget with discretionary portion for streets and still having to go to taxpayers for billions of dollars for streets.
- Excited to move forward and willing to serve on the committee

Dan Clark

- Agrees with statements made and looking at doing ad hoc committee
- Wants to see signs on streets that say funded by Measure 'L'
- Can't wait to see the micro paves and west Ridgecrest Blvd. moving forward.

Public Comment opened at 9:31 p.m.

Mike Neel

- Asked daily independent to print the chart on the failed status of current streets
- Gave history of why we are here right now and the amount of politicking when TAB funds were first available and then parks got in the way
- Asked council to not do this again and get the streets done
- Commented on the curve and how much is lost each week we wait to begin repairs.
- Parks and quality of life issues and alleged promises for parks delayed spending funds on streets
- Need to spend as much on streets as possible rather than sucking funds out of citizens
- Look forward to seeing a sign on streets paved by Measure 'L'

Dave Matthews

- Looking forward to reinstatement of infrastructure committee because older residential streets are eroding now especially by increased traffic around schools due to free bus being taken away by the school district.
- Impact of increased traffic on residential streets is happening.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Releasing A Deferred Street Improvement Covenant From Parcels 1, 2, 3 & 4 Of Parcel Map 7124 In The City Of Ridgecrest, County Of Kern, State Of California And Authorizing The City Manager To Sign The Release Of Covenant Culp
6. Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Sign A Deferred Lien Agreement For Street Improvements For 1435 North Downs Street To Be Attached To The Parcel And Direct The City Clerk To Record The Lien Agreement With The County Recorder's Office Culp
7. Adopt A Resolution Allocating \$391,000 Of Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) Funds For The Power Pole Relocation Associated With The West Ridgecrest Boulevard Project Between Mahan Avenue And Downs Street And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer To Sign The Southern California Edison Utility Relocation Agreement Contingent Upon The City Attorney's Review And Approval Culp
8. Approve A Resolution Requesting Authorization To Enter Into A Program Supplement Agreement No. 032-N With The State Of California, Department Of Transportation, Under Master Agreement No. 09-5385R And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Agreement For The Preliminary Engineering Of The Upgrade To Signals At Seven Intersections Throughout The City Of Ridgecrest Speer
9. Approve A Resolution Requesting Authorization To Enter Into Program Supplement Agreement No. 033-N With The State Of California, Department Of Transportation, Under Master Agreement No. 09-5385R And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Agreement For The Preliminary Engineering Of The Upgrade Traffic Signals And Pavement Markings At Twelve Intersections Throughout The City Of Ridgecrest Speer
10. Adopt A Resolution Formally Approving The Procedure For Establishing Strategic Planning Priority Goals For The City Of Ridgecrest Speer
11. Approve A Minute Motion Authorizing A Letter Of Opposition For The Fremont Valley Preservation Project To The Kern County Board Of Supervisors Speer
12. Adopt A Resolution Authorizing A Loan Agreement Between The City Of Ridgecrest And The Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau McQuiston

13. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Dated December 4, 2013 Ford

14. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Special Council Meeting Dated December 6, 2013 Ford

Items Pulled From Consent Calendar

- 7, 8, 11, and 12

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar items 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, and 14 Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.

Item 7 discussion

Dave Matthews

- Asked for clarification of funding to move the poles
 - Dennis Speer explained requirement to relocate utility poles and attorneys have established the poles were in place before incorporation so right of way did not exist, therefore cannot dispute what was presented so City must pay for relocation of the poles.

Item 8 discussion

Dave Matthews

- Asked what upgrades are being done for items 8 & 9
 - Signals lamps, size of the traffic signal lights are being increased and back plates have been damaged so will be replaced.
 - Item 9 is upgrading signs at the intersections and striping, stop bars.

Item 11 discussion

Chip Holloway

- Make clear this is not a letter of opposition but a letter of concern

Item 12 discussion

Mike Neel

- Packet listed a \$50k contribution which is inaccurate, more like \$150k
- Building says Ridgcrest City Hall not bank, why are we in the banking business
- If using my tax money, I want it used on streets
- This increased tax increased their revenue and I don't want my tax dollars giving loans.
- Feel this is improper and these funds should be used on infrastructure

Mike Neel *(continued)*

- Rachelle McQuiston had same concerns when first approached so reviewed. When improvement district was formed the city would normally pay for the setup of the district but RACVB took out a loan. We have a method of taking the payments from his proceeds. Additionally, we are receiving 10 times the return of investment on this loan than what we would normally receive if we invested in another manner. This should have been the city's initial responsibility to pay for the establishment of the RTID.
- Respectfully disagrees with the city's obligation to pay for the formation of the district.
- City is not here to make individual loans and will receive more return on the investment by paving streets now rather than waiting for them to erode further

Jim Sanders

- Asked for the background on the city's burden to pay for formation of the district
 - Common practice and industry standard for the city to pay the cost of formation. This was not the catalyst for moving forward but rather this is a good deal for the city and RACVB. We have a revenue stream we can withhold the money from whereas we would not have this from another individual.
- Asked why it was coming up now
 - Took time for the request to be researched.

Chip Holloway

- City sponsored RACVB for years and we funded from \$115k - \$160 per year until they took the initiative to form a tourism improvement district thereby saving the city general fund dollars and we receive a big benefit from it.
- Can't do mortgages because there is no nexus like we have with RACVB

Motion For Items 7, 8, 11, And 12, With Amendment Of \$391,000 To Item 7 And Amendment To Item Letter Of Concern Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Acton. 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Abstain, And 0 Absent

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

15. Codification Committee Update And New Member Appointment Sanders

Jim Sanders

- Presented staff report
- Want to create a new committee at the Council level and would like to be a member of the committee

Steven Morgan

- Will continue to serve on the committee

Dan Clark

- Support an Ad Hoc

Motion To Create An Ad Hoc Codification Committee And Appoint Jim Sanders And Steve Morgan As Members With Planning Commission To Appoint Two Members To Serve On The Committee Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

16. Receive And File The Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB) Tourism Improvement District Annual Report Lueck

Jim McRea

- Presented staff report

Motion To Accept For Filing The Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau Annual Report On The Tourism Improvement District Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

17. Approve A Minute Motion Authorizing City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest To Issue A Letter Of Support For Quad State Association To The Kern County Board Of Supervisors Morgan

Steve Morgan

- Presented staff report.

Motion To Approve Authorization For Staff To Draft And Send A Letter Of Support For Quad State Association To The Kern County Board Of Supervisors Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Holloway. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activate Community Talents And Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)

Members: Jim Sanders, Dan Clark

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Jim Sanders

- Meeting planned for January 14 at 4pm at Kerr McGee

Veterans Advisory Committee

Members: Dan Clark

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Council
Conference Room

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Dan Clark

- No report

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Chip Holloway

Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.

Next Meeting: Date and Location To Be Announced

Chip Holloway

- Meeting January 8 at Best Western at 8 am

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

- none

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- Reminder that council may wish to cancel first meeting of January
 - Council agreed

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Jim Sanders

- Good meeting today, a lot of progress
- Attended PACT meeting and was thanked for saying Merry Christmas
- Hope everyone enjoys Christmas day with family and loved ones

Lori Acton

- Showed picture sitting on Santa's lap
- Wished everyone a merry Christmas
- Thanked staff for what they do for council
- See everyone in 2014

Steven Morgan

- Thanked Lorelei Oviatt for giving the presentation, appreciated it and seemed like the best course of action
- Thanked representatives from Aquahelio and George Passantino for suggesting a sit down meeting
- Will send letter suggesting they sit down with residents of Cantil and Fremont valley
- We understand the global effects and appreciate council agreement to fight thru the documentation
- Giddy hearing Mike Neel say spend, spend, spend
- To staff of city of Ridgecrest, volunteers sincere wishes for a merry Christmas and happy New Year. Amazed by the amount of effort and work you put in and hope staff realize how much I appreciate them
- To residents including Inyokern have a safe holidays and happy new year

Chip Holloway

- Thanked Lorelei for coming here and for Aquahelio for sitting down with us. Every time you talked to someone the information changes but also with 15 years of experience reminds me of the high speed rail, if going to happen and be in our area need to get in the position of making the most beneficial and least painful for us
- Thanked council, McRea, and Chief Strand for catching me off guard with award from league of California cities. An honor that is appreciated
- Thanked staff for pulling off a great employee party
- This is the most optimistic I have felt in several years
- Can't wait for the complaints from citizens for detours during road projects
- Wished everyone a safe a merry Christmas
- Pull for LSU to win their game

Dan Clark

- Thanked everyone for pulling together
- Community and staff are awesome
- Wish everyone a very merry Christmas and happy new year

ADJOURNMENT at 10:12 pm



Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk